

## **City of Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee**

### **Meeting Notes**

September 18, 2007

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The City of Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee met on Tuesday, September 18, 2007 in the Atrium Room of the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland.

Members Present: Sheryl Gross-Glaser, Robert Patten, Greg Castano, Jay Ulfelder, Katherine Kelly

Members Absent: Jay Lee, Dan Turner, Margaret Warner, Sanjay Grover, Wolfgang Mergner

Staff Present: David Suls, Associate Planner

Others Present: Daryl Braithwaite- Director, Public Works Department

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#### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was determined unofficial because there was not a quorum.

#### **2. Review of Minutes:**

The minutes from the July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007 meeting were reviewed.

#### **3. Briefing**

FY08 Public Works Projects: Daryl Braithwaite, the Director of the City's Public Works Department, was invited by the SRC to discuss the PW department's projects for this year and how they relate to the goals of the committee. Daryl said that the bulk of the street work for this year has already been completed by resurfacing a number of city streets including Glenside, Jackson, and Davis. PW installed a new sidewalk on Grant Avenue in August as part of the City's SRTS Program. The sidewalk project included a storm water retention garden at the intersection of Holly Ave. and Grant Ave. The PW department worked with the Planning department last year to complete traffic calming projects including roundabouts at Elm and Lincoln and Glenside and Wildwood and bumpout curbs at Elm and Auburn. The City has budgeted \$100,000 for traffic calming projects in FY08 which will be determined through the recent Neighborhood Traffic Calming Study completed in July 2007 and resident feedback.

Bob Patten requested information on the Maple Avenue Bridge. The pedestrian section of the Maple Avenue Bridge has been closed for repairs and a detour has been made to the pedestrian

bridge north of the site. The bridge repairs will take up to 2 months to re-weld the steel structures. The work may include replacing the wood deck depending on the condition of the wood and the budget for the project which will be \$15-\$20,000.

Greg Castano described problems with the gutter pans' inconsistency in Old Town. The City fixes the gutter pans whenever a city road is resurfaced. SHA will be resurfacing some of the major intersections of 650 this year including 650 at Sligo Creek Parkway and at University Boulevard. SHA has scheduled resurfacing of rt.195, 787, and 410 in 2009 and the schedule for 2010 will be completed in the next 2 months.

Daryl also described the continuing problems with the quality of utility companies' work on City roads. The City is working towards better enforcement of their standards including the required compaction test needed for a re-patching of asphalt.

Greg Castano asked for an update on the fire station project. An unresolved pedestrian safety issue of the setback of the building has delayed the project at MNCPPC. A contractor was selected in March 2007 and the work is expected to start very soon. The first phase will be setting up the temporary fire station in the adjacent parking lot, designating the existing driveway entrance for the fire station only and making a new driveway entrance in the center of the lot, closer to the Co-op. The entire project should take 18-24 months.

#### **4. Action Items- the quorum was not met at this meeting so no official action was taken**

Takoma Park Elementary School: Takoma Park Elementary School is holding a series of public meetings to discuss the design of a planned addition to the school. The Committee can provide input on the final design to address transportation and safety issues. Sheryl Gross-Glaser will attend a majority of the meetings.

SRC Outreach: Committee members will write an article for the City Newsletter on the City code of unobstructed sidewalks.

Sidewalk Inventory: the committee discussed a citywide sidewalk inventory.

**Action:** Bob Patten will work with Katherine Kelly on accessing GIS data. The strategy for completing the Inventory in FY08 will be discussed at the Committee's November meeting, when possible funding sources will be verified.

October Meeting: Committee members proposed to hold an SRC Meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### **5. Announcements / Updates**

ADA Accessibility Study: The City will hire a consultant to survey the ADA accessibility of all of the sidewalks in the City. The Committee will use the resulting study and former SRC member, Mike Goodno's, sidewalk data to complete a citywide sidewalk survey that will categorize missing sidewalks and unsafe pedestrian paths.

Metro Development: WMATA is accepting comments on the proposed Takoma Metro EYA development until October 5<sup>th</sup>. The SRC may submit comments as a committee on the project if it conforms to the Council's position. The City is discussing the project on September 24<sup>th</sup>.

New Hampshire Avenue Charrette: David Suls reviewed the findings and main proposals of the Charrette held August 14-20<sup>th</sup>.

**6. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00.

**Respectfully Submitted**

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David Suls, Associate Planner

**Approved**

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Robert Patten, Chair